

KMS PURPLE PAGES

*Kenai Middle School
Kenai, Alaska
March 32, 2019*



KMS No-Bell Prize Winners!



The annual PEAKS standardized testing at KMS started off without a bang, or even a bell! The office staff made sure that no bells were ringing throughout the first week of testing, so that students who were testing in the computer labs and classrooms didn't have to worry about the disruptions. Students and teachers adjusted quickly to the no-bell routine, although the 6th graders weren't very happy about giving up their early lunch time to the 8th and 7th graders on their testing days.

Ms. Johnson enjoys living out her Disney princess fantasies by serving as Miss PEAKS, complete with her sash, tiara, and wand, all in festive KMS colors! Here she is showing off her support for students alongside Mrs. Vest. A special thanks to both of them, as well as Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Smith, and Mrs. Carson, for keeping the school running so smoothly during the chaotic two weeks of testing with no bells.

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"Her cup runneth over." -Mr. Beck

"Dixie cups are my cup of tea!"
-Mrs. Smith

"She is relentlessly consistent."
-Mr. Dosko

**Check out the full-color version of the *Purple Pages* online:
KMS Facebook, KMS website, and in your school g-mail!**

Opinion-8-ed

By Izzie Katzenberger



What is your favorite season of the year?

Xavier Zendejas: "Spring, because the snow melts and track starts."

Carnell Gump: "Spring, because I get to go to Kodiak."

Annemarie Pienta: "Summer, because of the warm weather."

Jason Herman: "Summer, because I can actually do my job."

Jenessa Marsden: "Summer, because my birthday is in summer and it is warm."

Esther Joseph: "Summer, because there is no snow and the plants come out."

Emily Huffer: "Summer, I can hang with friends and play soccer."

Aleea Faulkner: "Summer, I get to go four wheeling and fishing."

Melanie Hopkins: "Summer, I like the sun and the beach."

Erin Bell: "Summer, because there is no school and I get to walk in the warm weather."

Mrs. Diorec: "Summer, because I have time off work and I can travel."

Jayna Boonstra: "Summer, because the sun is hot and there is soft nice green grass. I also like it because I can go river rafting by our farm."

Max Martin: "Fall, because it is around my birthday and it's really pretty."

Jaden Garner: "Fall, because of hunting and fishing."

Ms. Updike: "Fall, because of silver fishing and school starts back up."

Dakari Robinson: "Fall, I can play outside and have fun."

Mary Nash: "Winter, I get to go snow machining and do more traveling."

Brylee Niland: "I don't have a favorite season, I love them all."

Legit Librarian

By Mrs. Nabholz

Congratulations to Ms. Gann, our very own KMS and KCHS librarian, for receiving the 2019 Linda K. Barrett Service Award from the Alaska Association of School Librarians! The award recognizes Ms. Gann's involvement in local and state activities and her outstanding service to the school library profession. She received the honor while attending the AkASL State Conference held in Juneau. We're very proud to have Ms. Gann inspiring and supporting young readers and researchers in our Kenai schools!



Ms. Gann with Ms. Clark, from Mat-Su Central, who received the 2019 School Librarian of the Year Award.

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Gentle Warhead

By Ana Gram

Are you a fan of playing warball during activity nights? Well, get ready for a big change! Mr. Felchle has developed a new rule for playing warball that will make the game much safer and slower. Instead of fast overhand throws intended to target others, all players will have to gently toss the ball after nicely calling out the name of the person they're throwing the ball to. Mr. Felchle will also expect students to use the phrases "please" and "thank you" often as they play.

For more on this story, turn to page 15.

Tommy Baker

By Lexa Adami



Tommy Baker is an 8th grader here at Kenai Middle School. He enjoys riding four-wheelers and playing hockey. Hockey is his favorite sport, because he feels good on the ice and he likes the cold. Tommy was just at a hockey tournament in Las Vegas. His team won and they came home happy.

Hockey isn't the only sport Tommy does. He also does football and wrestling, but he injured his back and it's keeping him from the sports he loves. It happened in football when he got hit in the /back with a football. Then he had to stop wrestling.

Tommy's family told him to do the sports he does, but he does enjoy them. His family plays a lot of sports; his brother Sammy does football. His dad wrestled when he was a kid, and so Tommy did it.

Tommy lives with his mom, dad, and brother, who is in high school. Tommy and his brother always get in disagreements just like other siblings, but he still loves him. Tommy and his brother have a shoe obsession and they have a ton of shoes. Tommy is in general a funny and nice person; if you haven't talked to him before you should.

Brooke Summers

By Dylan Landry



Brooke Summers is a 7th grader here at Kenai Middle School and is an interesting person who loves her family, school, and the outdoors. Her father is remarrying and she is getting four new siblings! She said, "They are really nice and cool."

Brooke is a proud skier who loves to go to Alyeska every free weekend; her father and brother love skiing so they all go together. She goes to competitions and has been in two this year. She doesn't know any tricks, but rather enjoys downhill skiing.

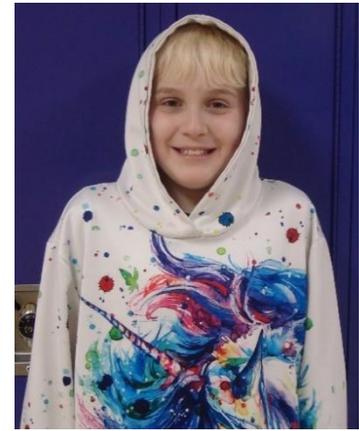
Brooke, like all humans, is a music listener and she loves K-pop and pop. Her favorite pop artist goes by the name of Billie Eilish. She also likes an artist named Jung Kook, a South Korean singer. Her three favorite songs are Dope by BTS, Monster by EXO, and Paradise by BTS.

Brooke is enjoying school; she compliments this school in saying she likes it far better than her old school. She believes that the teachers and students are better at KMS. Although a good student, she is scared for eighth grade, especially Mr. Summer's class. She is also scared of the math; she has heard that it is difficult.

Just remember that Summer ends with an R and not an S!

Ty Morris

By Alexis Marquis



Ty Morris is a really cool 6th grader here at KMS. He has two brothers, a younger one named Blake, and an older brother named Eli. He has two dogs, Dizzy and Chloe. He also has an amazing cousin named Alexis Marquis.

Ty's best friend is Devon Duniphin. They have been friends for six years. His favorite thing about Devon is that they can play video games with each other. Some other friends are Jason Johnson and Avia Miller.

At school his favorite class is math; he's in 7th grade math right now. His favorite thing about math is that it's easy for him and the teachers are nice. He likes to hang out with his friends in class when he can. Ty also likes to go in the library and read books about ninjas, play on the computers, and help the librarian.

At the start of the year he did cross country running and he just got done with cross country skiing. His favorite sport is basketball. Ty likes basketball because it's competitive and it's fun to play with friends. He played on the Boys and Girls Club team for over six years.

If you have seen Ty in the hallway, you would know he has a

(continued on page 4)

Island Lake Ice Fishing

By Camilla Gonzalez

This year's 7th grade ice fishing trip to Island Lake was spectacular! We had lots of fun and it was a great experience. We ate hotdogs, and some snacks, plus we had great weather, and we got to spend the day with our friends!

Pani Juliussen said he loved hanging out with his friends, but he didn't go fishing. The most enjoyable part was that he put his head in the water, but he said it wasn't cold, and that he was always occupied and never got bored.

Gabe Segura commented that he loved fishing, but sadly

didn't catch any fish. His favorite part of the trip was when he and his friends pushed Canon into their fish pool. He also loved doing the tug-a-war.

Some awards were given to people, Jackson Marion for first fish, Kaitlyn Martin for the biggest fish, and Charles Trickle for the community award.

In the end, everyone enjoyed having a fun day, and hanging with their friends. I think it was a great idea to put this trip together, and a big thanks to Mr. V for organizing it.



Spelling Bee Success



Congratulations to Robert Carson, our KMS Spelling Bee winner and school representative to the Alaska State Spelling Bee in Anchorage. Out of 140 spellers competing in the state bee, Robert made it to the 4th round and was among the final 30 spellers. He correctly

spelled spaghetti and Fahrenheit, but the word that eliminated Robert was marmoreal, which he spelled with the suffix -ial. By the way, marmoreal means "made of or suggesting the use of marble."

What you do today can improve all your tomorrows.

Ty Morris

(continued from page 3)

weird and amazing style. He has dyed his hair twice. First he dyed it purple and he got the look from his cousin, and now he's back to bleached blonde. With his clothes he mainly just sees something he likes at the store and gets it, or at school if he sees someone with a cool outfit he looks for it and gets it, like his ripped jeans and his Vans.

In his free time he likes to read, play video games, and watch TV. He's really into anime. When he's not with his dad in Anchorage he also likes to hang out with his cousin in Kenai.

A cool fact about Ty is that he's a vegetarian, so he doesn't eat meat, which sounds hard but it's pretty easy for him. He has had over three concussions, one from sledding and hitting a tree, the second one from falling off a toy when spinning, and the third one from getting hit with a basketball. He has also broken his younger brother's pinky. His favorite color is purple, and his favorite food is soup.

In the end, Ty is a pretty cool, weird, amazing 6th grader that you should say hi to in the hall and be his friend.

Civil Air Patrol

By Jacob Blum



Have you ever heard of Civil Air Patrol? According to Wikipedia it is a “congressionally chartered, federally supported, non-profit corporation that serves as the official civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force. CAP is a volunteer organization with an aviation minded membership that includes people from all backgrounds, lifestyles, and occupations.”

CAP was founded on December 1st, 1941, in the United States of America. It was founded by David Harold Byrd and Gill Rob Wilson. The CAP National Commander is Mark Smith, and the CAP motto is “Semper Vigilance; always vigilant.” CAP received an Air Force Organizational Excellence award. CAP has three main missions: cadet programs, emergency services, and aerospace education. CAP has over 61,000 volunteers, 550 light aircraft, and over 900 ground vehicles.

Two of those volunteers are 7th graders attending KMS. Their names are Wyatt Cole and William Roberts. Wyatt and William are both senior airmen. I asked them about some of the things they do in CAP.

They said they get to fly gliders and powered aircrafts. They also have days designated for physical training, and sometimes they do obstacle courses. They get to travel and meet new people. They also do color guard, which is putting a flag on a pole and holding rifles. They also have to study for tests to move up in rank.

I asked Wyatt how to sign up; he told me you have to go to three meetings and then sign up online. I asked William how he liked CAP; he said, “I’ve learned a lot from it and it’s a high priority in my life.” I asked William if CAP affected what he wanted to do in the future; he said, “I might want to go to the military, but it’s a big choice and I don’t want to decide now and find out it’s not for me.” I asked Wyatt the same questions, and he replied with, “It gives you good employability for jobs,” and “I want to serve in the Air Force then become an airline pilot.” Well, I hope the information I presented you encourages you to think about attending CAP!

Random Stuff

By Lexa Adami



A queen bee can live up to five years, is the only bee that can lay eggs, and lays about 2,500 per day. The male honey bee has no stinger and does no work. Sound familiar? The oldest known fossil of a bee was in Eastern Africa some 65 million years ago. But they

were known to be on earth about 120 million years ago. Bees came from tropical Eastern Africa and spread to Europe and eastwards into Asia. They didn’t exist in North America until 1622.

Roses have a specific color that has a certain value. Red is a symbol of love, yellow of friendship, orange of enthusiasm, white of purity, and pink of joy. Wild roses have five petals and five sepals. A large number of petals is a mutation and is seen in cultivated roses.

Narwhals are best known for the long tusk – a long spiraled tooth that usually only males develop, but females occasionally do. The tusk can grow to nine feet long and weigh more than 22 lbs. Narwhals wearing heart monitors reveal the danger of human encounters; they do not attack humans but are scared of them.

Some researchers think that the heart icon came from plants such as ivy leaves, or the leaves of the water lily, but other researchers think that it is two hearts formed together.



Choir Concert

By Makena Arbizo

In choir there are four different sections: bass, soprano, tenor, and alto. All of these sections are led by what is called a “Section Leader.” They help Mrs. Vollom-Matturro with keeping the pitch for each section. These leaders for the 8th grade choir are Kage Adkins for bass section, Malerie Nunn for soprano section, Andrew Gaethle for tenor section, and Aicha Kisenka for alto section.

These leaders are in charge of keeping everyone on the right pitches. Though it may not seem like much, they are

are very helpful to Mrs. Vollom-Matturro. When rehearsing, the choir have times when we all joke around and talk about the music we are singing.

When the choir performed at Kenai Central High School on March 5th, they were phenomenal. The pieces selected were quite gorgeous and rich in sound, and the choir’s sound was rich and melodic. The theme of the concert was ocean and river, and there was two pieces that weren’t part of the theme but they were equally amazing. These pieces were called Oye and Tumekuja. Overall, the choir concert choir was magnificent!

Gnawed Leather

By Ana Gram

Did you know that small rodents have been spotted scampering about inside KMS? According to Mr. Tilly, some teachers have reported miniscule droppings in their classrooms, and several students noticed a tiny shrew sprinting into the computer lab, likely searching for a mouse. The cute critter avoided capture and somehow managed to crawl inside the garbage can holding all the lost and found shoes. Last week, a student hunting for his missing Adidas sneakers dumped out the barrel of shoes, only to discover that every single shoe was covered with tiny teeth marks.

For more on this story, turn to page 15.

#KMShashtags

By Camilla Gonzalez & Lexa Adami

- #Aprilfools
- #Scrunchiesinstyle
- #Stayoutofthehallway
- #Summersoon
- #Gossipisreal
- #Breakfastatlunch
- #PEAKSwasboring
- #Schoolhurtsmyfeelings
- #Smellslikedogdoodyoutside
- #Dogbootydooty
- #Iwroteonmyshoes
- #Icefishingstolemytoes
- #Trackteamisgrowingfasterthanmyego



#Mr.Summergavemetwosausagesinsteadofonesoididntfinishmypancakes

April Fool's Day Facts

By Izzie Katzenberger

- Some historians believe that April Fools started in France.
- In some countries pranks can only be played until noon.
- In Scotland people celebrate two days as fool's days. The second day is Taily Day when people can only play pranks using a person's back.
- Google launched Gmail on April Fools.
- April Fools' Day is also called All Fools' Day.
- In 1986, Taco Bell ran a story that they bought the Liberty Bell and were going to rename it the Taco Liberty Bell.
- In the 1950s, BBC released a story about a spaghetti harvest that took place in Switzerland.
- April Fools is not a national holiday.
- The Korean royal family is allowed to lie and play pranks on April Fool's Day.
- In some countries, people throw flour at each other as part of the festivities.

Useful Useless Facts?

By April F. O'Lesday

- The opposite sides of a dice cube always add up to either 12 or 17.
- The Queen of Hearts is the only face card in a deck of cards without a mustache.
- Anchorage, Alaska is the only state capital with seven Taco Bell restaurants.
- Dr. Seuss invented these words: pantyhose, frinstance, frenemy, and muggle.
- The first e-mail sent by computer in 1927 said "Yeet that stupid potato!"
- Alaska is the only state name that can be spelled without the letters T and R.
- If Jupiter were the size of a basketball, then Earth would be extremely crowded because it would only be the size of a grape.
- A typical pair of size 32 men's jeans accumulates two pounds of pocket lint each day.
- A single living adult Tyrannosaurus Rex weighs the same as 3,942 rotisserie chickens.
- Bottlenose dolphins give each other nicknames like "Stinky" and "Squirt."
- \$1,000 of Monopoly money is actually worth only \$19 in U.S. currency.
- Americans produce an average of 4.48 tons of trash per person each week.
- After they are dipped in chocolate, an onion, apple, and potato taste identical.
- The word "gullible" is actually spelled with only one L that was cloned twice.
- If you believed any of the above "facts" to be useful or useless, you really are gullible.

Thawed General

By Ana Gram

Have you noticed a strange smell recently near the 8th grade hallway? Apparently, one of the exhibits in Mr. Summer's classroom museum of oddities started to melt during spring break. Several years ago Mr.

Summer had acquired the preserved remains of an authentic U.S. Civil War general at a local garage sale, and he kept the body on display in a cold storage chamber in his classroom. When the power went out during spring break, and the cooler's back-up battery pack died, the general's corpse didn't fare too well.

For more on this story, turn to page 15.

April Birthdays

By Jody McKinney

Dylan Landry-1st
Layla Pearson-4th
Kyle Pearson-4th
Zeke Yragui-6th
Sean Raften-8th
Ben Merritt-10th
Nathan Teates-11th
Keagen Medina-11th
Jake Phillips-13th
Chase Stem-14th
Marina Crabb-15th
Victor Santana-16th
Genesis Trevino-16th
Jason Koenig-18th
Delen Byrd-19th
Cassidy Leavitt-19th
McKenzie Koliba-20th
Kaden Blake-21st
Jackson Purcell-21st
Reagan Graves-23rd
Cooper Gossard-24st
Hunter Bras-25th
Robert Carson-26th
Emma Beck-27th
Dresden Reith-27th
Haily Woodward-28th
Marcus Wong-29th



Volleyball Boroughs

By Makena Arbizo

On Saturday, March 2nd the Borough Tournaments were held at the Kenai Middle School gym. The competitors were Homer, Skyview, Nikiski, and Kenai. All of the teams played exceptionally well. How did the coaches feel since they made it? “Very proud of the girls because they fought back!! The girls gave 100%!!” said Mrs. Beck. “I’m very proud because we played against mostly 8th graders!” said Ms. Stotz.

There is no doubt that these are very proud coaches. They did an amazing job coaching these girls. How was this season? According to Ms. Stotz this season went by quickly and it seemed as though there was not enough time. During each game both teams watched the games with excitement. They were both cheering for one another, which was a great amount of support for both.

Ms. Stotz stated, “The most memorable moment this season was the last game we played because we went into a third round and that was the first time we ever did and we came out on top! It was very exciting.” It’s safe to say that this volleyball season was a great one. One of Mrs. Beck’s memorable moments was that “Brooklyn makes crazy faces to stay calm.”

During this season there were some girls who got sick and weren’t able to make some practices. For more than two weeks, at least one girl was missing from each team because of illness. Luckily, the very last practice, everyone was there! At the end of the tournaments, Kenai 7th A came out in 3rd place and Kenai 8th A in 2nd. Congratulations to both teams.

6th Grade Volleyball

By Camilla Gonzalez

Sixth grade intramurals are all about learning and having fun. The coach this year is Mrs. Beck, plus a lot of 7/8th grade A team players are helping out. The 6th graders will be learning some skills such as bumping, setting, serving, and hitting.

Tait Cooper said that she likes passing and setting, and



8th grade A-team: Shania McCana (Aurora), Chloe Goldsby, Malerie Nunn, Jorgi Phillips, Kori Moore, Ciara Neely, Cali Holmes, Coach Beck, Rylie Sparks, Eva Sorensen, Mac Coray, Brooklynn Reed, Genesis Trevino, Sierra Moffis, Kimberly Chanley



7th grade A-team: Ashlyn Potton, Grace Beiser, Camilla Gonzalez, Chloe Moffis, Emma Beck, Emmalee Roney, Isabel McClure, Coach Stotz, Samantha Avery, Jaycie Castillo, Kylee Verkuilen, Lillian Kroto

that she would love to continue playing volleyball in the future. She has never played before but wants to learn so she can play better with Emma Beck.

Kate Wisnewski replied that she loves playing volleyball, and that she is playing because her mom played. Kate has also played volleyball in the past. She really likes setting and hitting. She enjoys her coach, and she would love to play again. Currently she is also playing on the Midnight Sun volleyball team, which gathers on Mondays and Wednesdays, so she has the chance to get lots of practice.

The volleyball season is going really well; I am glad to see everybody learning and enjoying it. I would love to see next year’s 6th graders do the same and have fun with it.

Check out which 6th graders played volleyball! →

Wrestling Road Trip to Fairbanks

By Zachary Halstead & Kenzie Keller

In February sixteen kids and a couple of KMS coaches woke up at four am to go on a road trip to Tanana Middle School for the state wrestling tournament.

The KMS wrestling team had four coaches this season. Coach Moss is a Spanish teacher at KCHS, Coach LeClair is a gym teacher at KMS, Coach Stan is the club wrestling coach, and Coach Schoessler teaches shop and geography at KMS.

Here are kids that went to the Fairbanks tournament:

8th grade: Jaden Garner, Zachary Halstead, Ransom Hayes, Jason Koenig, Dawson Lockwood, Reymond Perez, Owen Whicker, Xavier Zendejas

7th grade: Tanner Clyde, Kenzie Keller

6th grade: Hunter Bras, Ben Harris, Robert Hayes, Jessica LeClair, Dresden Reith, Sawyer Vann

The bus ride to Fairbanks was pretty fun because we played tons of games. According to Zach, the seats were comfortable and good quality, but according to Kenzie the bus was too cold, the seats were too close together, and the windows were always open because they would not shut.

We stayed over for three nights at Tanana Middle School in a classroom. We had a good time in Fairbanks, since no one was grumpy and we put up a good fight against the state wrestlers.

Three KMS students earned awards at the meet. Tanner Clyde got 6th place with three losses and three

wins, with an amazing six second pin; Tanner was happy with what place he got. Jason Koenig got 8th place with two wins and two losses; he thought his placement was okay. Kenzie Keller got 7th place with two wins and two losses; Kenzie is happy with her place.

Wrestler's opinions:

Tanner Clyde said, "I had a lot of fun, I would rather wrestle than go play hockey."

Jason Koenig said, "It was fun and a challenge and there is no other place I would rather be at that moment."

Kenzie Keller said, "I had a lot of fun and I will take wrestling over any other sport."



Kenzie trying to escape Tanner's body odor, "It is horrible."



One of the crowded wrestling gyms.



Weighing in wrestlers before we kicked butt.



The room where we stayed, slept, and snored.

6th Grade Volleyball

Elisa Andrew

Sarah Jane Baisden

Tait Cooper

Caitlyn Crapps

Ava Gruber

Kaylauna Gump

McKenzie Koliba

Brooklyn Larsen

Lola McEwen

Avia Miller

Kenna Miller

Taylor Pyfer

Seanna Swanson

Isabel Thomas

Kate Wisnewski

**Failure will never overtake me
if my determination to succeed
is strong enough.**

XC Skiing Boroughs

By Sean Raften

On March 2nd, the KMS XC ski team hosted the borough meet at the Kenai Golf Course. It was the first classic race of the season, so the week before all of the skiers worked very hard on their classic technique.

At the borough meet, the Kenai team earned many awards. In the boys' race, first place was Greg Fallon, second place was, Jack Laker, third place was William Roberts, fourth place was Jonathan Gordon, seventh place was Sean Raften, and eighth place was Zane Tews. First place for the girls was Jayna Boonstra, second place was Emily Moss, fourth place was Lianna Carranza, and sixth place was Ava Gruber.

At the end-of-season party on March 7th, all of the skiers cleaned out the wax room and put a protective layer of wax on their skis for the summer. Then, everybody went upstairs for the awards ceremony, and more importantly, pizza!



*Don't watch the clock;
do what it does. Keep going.*

6th Grade Basketball

By Mrs. Nabholz

Sixth grade intramural basketball was a great learning experience for players, especially those who had never played on a team before. Thanks to Mr. Gustkey and Mrs. Beck for helping out as coaches.

Sawyer Vann just wanted to try it out, since he had never really played basketball before. Dresden "Ginger" Reith was happy that it gave the 6th graders a perspective on what 7th and 8th grade basketball will be like, since it's different from playing on a Boys & Girls Club team. Jocilyn Reid stated that the best thing about participating was "being able to work with everybody and build sportsmanship and build skills."

Avia Miller feels that basketball is amazing! Her dad played the whole time he was growing up, so she wanted to play too. She has played basketball with four boys since second grade, so she has some experience. Avia said, "I know I'm a girl but I can do what the boys can do but even better."

- Sarah Jane Baisden
- Tait Cooper
- Roman Dunham
- Elliot Hanson
- Robert Hayes
- Sierra Hershberger
- Makai Johansen
- Grace Kahn
- Matthew Krol
- Bella Kroto
- Avia Miller
- Ty Morris
- Jocilyn Reid
- Dresden Reith
- Jayden Rodgers-Whipple
- Seanna Swanson
- Bella Tomrdle
- Landon Turner
- Tyler Van Sky
- Sawyer Vann
- Dakota Wisnewski
- Kate Wisnewski
- Jalyn Yeoman
- Jenna Yeoman



January SOMs

By Gwendylan N. Case

Congratulations to the January Students of the Month! Good job being such hard working and exemplary students. Way to go 7th graders for having six students of the month in January!



8th grade- Bridger Beck



7th grade- Kenzie Keller, Abigail Castillo, Samantha Avery, Boston McEwen, Gregory Fallon, Lynn a Hack



6th grade- Kelsie Easling, McKenzie Flanders, Taylor Pyfer

February SOMs

By Justin Case

Congratulations to these Students of the Month for February! Okay, so maybe not – the reporter assigned this article wasn't able to get group pictures due to the busy testing schedule last week, so we will feature February and March SOMs in the next issue! What do you think of this month's substitute selections?



Not really KMS 8th graders



Not really KMS 7th graders



Not really KMS 6th graders

Problems are not stop signs, they are guidelines.

MathCounts

By Sean Raften

Every Thursday after school in Mrs. Nabholz's room, about 20 kids come to participate in MathCounts. MathCounts is a program for kids who feel that they aren't being challenged enough with their classroom math. The KMS team is coached by Mr. Thomas.

In MathCounts, there are four competitions. The first one, in February, is the chapter competition. This year, it was held in Anchorage. If you are in the top three teams, you advance to the state competition, in March, also usually held in Anchorage. Then, the top four individuals in the state competition are combined into one team to travel to the national competition in May.

The fourth competition is the district competition, which takes place in April. It is also called the Homer Math Meet.

In the chapter meet, the Kenai Middle School team, made of Grace Kahn, Xinlan Tanner, Eli Morris, and Sean Raften, scored 2nd place. After that, at the state meet, the team earned 4th place, and as an individual, Sean Raften won 3rd place and will be heading to the national competition in Orlando, Florida, in May.

Eli Morris says that he likes MathCounts because it is challenging. He feels proud of his accomplishments in MathCounts because it makes him feel smart. Sadly, he says that he is "depressed" that he won't be able to participate next year as a high school student.



THE HARDER THE CONFLICT, THE MORE GLORIOUS THE TRIUMPH.

Expect problems and eat them for breakfast.

Mission to Mars

By Samuel Brighton

Recently 6th graders went on a field trip (sponsored by Marathon) to the Challenger Center. On this field trip my classmates and I learned all about the Challenger disaster and even more about Mars and the Mars missions. We did a simulation of a Mars mission.

My position was called a navigator (NAV). In the position of NAV it was my job to create circuits that would navigate the ship, and after that, to manually fly the ship. I managed to complete the tasks I was given, which allowed the ship to land and not kill everyone on board.

There were many other jobs as well including MED (medic), ROV (rover) BOT, (robot) LS, (life support) NAV (navigation), COM (communication), BIO (biology), and GEO (geology). All of these jobs had to work together to complete the mission.

When we arrived they assigned us all of our jobs. They split us into two groups, one group went to mission control and the other group (my group) went to the MTV (Mars transportation vehicle). In the MTV we each had a computer that gave us our tasks. It was not very interesting at first, but when it told us I had to build circuits, that's when it got interesting. It took a long time to build all of the circuits. After I finished building them the two groups traded places. Now we were in mission control. I checked the fuel and other boring things, but then we had to pilot and land the MTV (me and the NAV in the MTV). During the mission there was one disaster, an asteroid crashed into Mars and we decided to take our samples down in the new crater. We completed our mission and found water on Mars, but sadly we did not have enough time. With more time we would have been able to find life on Mars (still simulation).

The Challenger Center was a very fun experience and I would recommend it to space lovers everywhere!

The Ins & Outs of MTV

By Arianna Hensley

Recently I went to the Challenger Center with my classmates and it was an exciting trip. When we arrived we were greeted by one of the workers. After we checked that everyone was there and knew their roles we went inside a room where they instructed us what to do in our stations. We split into two groups, mission control and Mars expedition.

I was in the Mars expedition first. In there we were gathering data for mission control to use for landing the rover. I was studying rocks and completing the packet and the information program on the computer. The position I was in was GEO (geology), where we were studying rock samples.

There were many other important jobs as well. Some are BIO (biology), NAV (navigation), COM (communication), and others that would take toooooo long to name!

After we took a 15-minute break we switched places, mission control to Mars expedition and Mars expedition to mission control. In the second half in mission control we were actually landing the rover. I have heard that all of the groups found water and completed the mission, but none of them found life. I don't know for certain, though.

What we used to communicate with the other teammate was a com link through text, and the COM was using the headphones with a microphone.

There were abbreviations for our stations, such as MS, which is mission control, and MTV, which was the Mars center. I don't know the abbreviation so I'm going to be calling it Multiple Toddlers Vacationing. (It probably really is called Mars Transport Vehicle, though my version is much better.)

Marathon funded the trips for all the sixth graders, and I would like to thank them for it.

(Check out CC field trip pictures on KMS Facebook!)

Enlarge the Wad

By Ana Gram

Has a friend ever offered you a piece of ABC gum? Gross, as in Already-Been-Chewed gum! Ms. Johnson is actually a huge fan of ABC gum. She was first inspired two years ago after she chaperoned the 8th graders traveling to Washington D.C. for spring break. They ended up taking an unexpected layover in Seattle, and they visited the famed "gum wall" near Pike Place Market. She decided to create her own personal ABC gum collection in the corner of the counseling office, and she faithfully adds to the gooey mess every single day; she even allows students to add their own ABC gum! For more on this story, turn to page 15.

Flying Through Space

By Oliver Boersma

Imagine you are flying through space on a mission to find life on Mars. Then don't imagine it because the sixth graders actually did that (minus the space part). At the end of February, the sixth grade science classes went to the Challenger Center and did a mission to Mars!

Students all had jobs inside and outside the MTV. The jobs were rover, bot, life support, geo, health, communications, weather, biology, and navigation. Rover builds the rover that goes to Mars, and bot programs the rover. Life support takes care of the oxygen, water, and food. Geo takes rock samples of Mars. Health takes care of the crew. Communications communicates with mission control. Weather sees what the weather is on Mars. Biology sees if there is life on Mars. Finally, the last job is navigation which tells where the people go.

The reason we did not pay for the trip is because it was sponsored by Marathon Oil. The mission objectives were to find water on Mars, get the rover to a crater, and to find life on Mars. The sixth graders completed the rover and the water parts. Overall, it was very fun and Martians should **SUBSCRIBE TO PEWDIEPIE**.



YouTuber PewDiePie drawn by the brilliantly artistic Jody McKinney!

CHALLENGER CHALLENGE

BY TY MORRIS

A L N S V V Q A A J B R M A R A T H O N W I L U M
X S A O U L P H U W L E A D K L F Q S K T B O A D
A U T I I N J M B I J T R M E E H C T X F M R C I
S S W R R T N A F C E A S T P X V I R K M S T O O
W B T A O T A E Q V Q R M Q D P C D X U T V N S R
M E S R E N S G G L A C I G O L O E G R O Q O M E
F A A K O U O E I Y W C S K B O G M A L J J C O T
N B C T P N X M R V X W S V V R F N J A L C N N S
G O P P H P A A I R A O I F M E S O N C H J O A A
R Q O B N E D U U C E N O H L P U O J I W D I U Q
Z R Q E V I R V T D A T N Q O P I S L G H W S T A
T Y D Y A R O E T E M L A R U T C S B O Q E S D B
Y Q X T V O X Y M U D P T R I I N L U L K D I M E
G N I N O S I O P L N A M D T O M S K O U I M A B
P O U S M O O N C S T A E O I X T P Q I H T R J R
N M H R P C M R R I X P B T Q O E S I B T T B T I
S S O L E A O W O D X O A L N R E T A W H B A U J
R B M Q C P C N D E R C E X T R E M O P H I L E S
O H X R I W V E Q G I P H O B O S E V M Y Q F I D
V O P V O E R E T N E C R E G N E L L A H C E Z N
E V Z Q H F T Y U G E O P O N I C S R Q T B B R G
R T O I M Z E M K M H Z H I S H A K V M K T L U F
J U C K M L M F H Z X C P G Q I Z I D Y V R M F R
U L R G Y O Y L I E O F H Z M R L D K Z N C Z C E
E I Y J C A H A R L V X K C A F C O J F B X Y C X

ASTEROID, ASTRONAUT, ASTRONOMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, CHALLENGER CENTER, COMMUNICATIONS, COSMONAUT, CRATER, DEATH, EARTH, EXPEDITION, EXPLORE, EXTRATERRESTRIAL, EXTREMOPHILES, GEOLOGICAL, GEOPONICS, HOUSTON, LIFE FORMS, LIFE SUPPORT, MARATHON, MARS MISSION, MARS TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE, MEDIC, METEOR, MISSION CONTROL, MOON, NASA, NAVIGATION, OXYGEN, PHOBOS, POISONING, RADIATION, ROBOTICS, ROCKET, ROVER, SPACE, SUN, WATER, WEATHER, MARTIANS LOVE PEWDIEPIE

A Tangled Where

By Ana Gram

Do you know how to tell the difference between the homophones wear and where? Can you correctly spell werewolf, warehouse, underwear, and everywhere? Mrs. Miranda's LA 8 students were learning creative ways to keep all of these confusing similarities straight in their writing. Several ambitious students created a clever and helpful hallway display of posters explaining the differences. Unfortunately, some drama students were a little too energetic practicing their choreographed dance moves for their upcoming class play, and the posters were damaged beyond repair. For more on this story, turn to page 15.

OK GO! to Anchorage

By Rylee Novak



On March 22nd, I went to the OK GO! concert in Anchorage, and now I'm gonna tell you about it, so buckle up kids because I'm here to enlighten you!

While we were waiting for the bus, Mrs. Morrow, the Quest teacher at Mountain View, notified us that there was an app that we could download to 'interact' with the band. It was pretty confusing, just a colored screen with arrows on the sides and a circle in the middle.

I only knew about seven people going on the trip, and the rest were Mountain View kids. Being the edgy middle schoolers we are, we sat in the very back of the bus. The most fun on the bus ride was the occasional bumps because we could see everyone collectively jump up and then fall down.

In Anchorage, we headed to the 5th Avenue Mall, since we had time to kill. I can only imagine how that looked, a few adults with about 25 kids just running around the mall. We all went up to the food court for dinner, and the people there were probably a little weirded out by us, but hey, they didn't question it.

Now, I am no expert at ordering food. I stutter, and I go very quiet, so it's more like trying to converse with a quiet person who only knows like four words in English.

(My mom laughed when she found at that I had to order food myself and said that I needed to have someone record me so she could see how badly I messed up. Thanks for the vote of confidence, Mom.)

So anyway, I stuttered like "heycanihavethatokaythanksbye" and it was a few of the most stressful minutes of my life because I felt like everyone else there was bothered by my existence, but I did it! And just because we were eating didn't mean we couldn't cause chaos. A few kids were messing around with the little car things you put a quarter in and they move, and that resulted in Destin falling on the ground and just general craziness.



In the mall we stopped at a shoe store where Ty found fabulous glittery shoes, Grace got excited over a Metallica shirt, Bella judged baby shoes, and Mrs. Nabholz bought a cool pair of purple Converse. We went to a few other stores, Hot Topic because like I said, we're edgy middle schoolers. We actually went to Clair's before that, so it was quite the contrast.

After Hot Topic, we walked over to the theatre, were reminded to not be disrespectful gremlins, and after a few minutes of chaos found our seats. And honestly? The concert was really cool! OK GO! showed their music videos on the screen behind them, and sang along to it. They had really bright lights and just abused the confetti cannons. We sat up in the second balcony, and everyone was nervous

they were going to fall off.

In between songs, the band answered the audience's questions and told stories. We found out that the goose following them in one video just liked to be with them. They tried to chase him away but he attacked them, so finally they just let him follow them around. That goose is dead now though, so a moment of silence for him (press F to pay respects).

For their anti-gravity video, the pilot was Russian (because they filmed it in Russia, obviously) and when he gave them the safety instructions they didn't understand him, so they had no idea what to do if the plane failed (luckily it didn't).

After the intermission they played more songs, answered more questions, and finally brought out the song with the interactive app. Everyone had different colors and symbols to play along with, so that was pretty fun. For the last song, they brought kids up on stage to dance, and Sam's little brother got up there and flossed like his life depended on it. Amazing!

The concert finished about ten pm, and some of us (mostly me) were wide awake. While walking down the street back to the bus, I screamed about glitter and confetti being invasive species. People on the street just ignored me, which was probably a good idea.

The bus ride home was lovely. Almost everyone fell asleep, we hit really bad bumps, and I narrated everything through my rolled-up magazine. So, did I fall asleep on the way home? Nope. I quietly sang the Newsies soundtrack to myself, and a few Be More Chill songs. Am I a good singer? Nope. But hey, it was like one am and I was wide awake, so y'know.

Anyway, the OK GO! concert was awesome, 10/10, and I would definitely go again!

Anonymous Confessions 2.0

By King Steven & Special Guest King Aurther

“I once touch a Bill Of Law” -Bubbles
King Steven: “Are you sure about that?”
King Aurther: “I am the Law.”

“I like Bananananananas” -Anonymous
King Steven: “Make sure it’s Healthy.”
King Aurther: “Good for you.”

“I Love Anime Girls” -Misure Piggy
King Steven: “As long as it’s school appropriate!”
King Aurther: “When is Anime Girls Ever Appropriate?”

“My Sister Is Mean” -Can’t Read Spelling
King Steven: “Wow, your sister’s name is mean.”



“Saw some people with bananas on der head” -Not \$noopdog
King Steven: “Is that so.”
King Aurther: “I’m concerned. Has your mother dropped you too many times?”

“You’re my mother’s sister’s ex-wife’s third boyfriend’s

father’s high school friend’s dog’s last owner’s father’s mother’s hitchhiker’s son!” -Ancestor
King Steven: “Are you sure about that?”
King Aurther: “Are you out of breath? That seems extremely complicated.”

“My brother has stabbed me with a fork.” -Anonymous
King Steven: “Have you gotten that checked out with the doctor? Cuz your brother could possibly be insane?”
King Aurther: “You should have him admitted to an asylum.”
King Steven: “If only life didn’t have brothers who stabbed people with forks.”



The *KMS Purple Pages* . . . is brought to you by Lexa Adami, Makena Arbizio, Jacob Blum, Gwendylan Case, Camilla Gonzalez, Zachary Halstead, Izzie Katzenberger, Kenzie Keller, Dylan Landry, Alexis Marquis, Jody McKinney, Sean Raften, and Izaiah Templeton, with support from Journalism advisor Mrs. Nabholz. Guest reporters for this issue include Oliver Boersma, Sam Brighton, Arianna Hensley, and Rylee Novak, and Ty Morris created the word search. Illustrators for this issue include Jacob, Jody, and Lexa, plus special guest Grace Beiser. Thanks to all the teachers who provided photos!

Anagrams Contest

by Ana Gram

So, what did you think of all the amazing “news” stories written by Ana Gram spread throughout this issue? Hopefully, you figured out that Ana Gram isn’t a real person, let alone a reporter for the famed KMS Purple Pages! And did you happen to notice the publication date for this issue? Yep, you’ve been pranked, it’s April Fool’s Day!

The best part of this AFD prank is that you can win a prize! This not-so-real reporter has five fictional articles spread throughout this issue, and all of the headlines are anagrams of the name of one student, a KMS 8th grader.

Write the headlines on the five lines below, along with the page number where you found each article. On the sixth line, unscramble the letters and write the 8th grader’s name, correctly spelled.

Lastly, write your name and grade level on the bottom line, and turn in your completed entry to Mrs. Nabholz in room #13 by the front office, by 3:00 pm on Monday, April 8th. This contest is open to all KMS students and staff!

_____ page _____

8th grader: _____

Name _____ Grade _____

*I think my iPhone is broken.
I hit my home button,
but I’m still at school!*

Overheard

By Izzie Katzenberger

“You’re a beautiful potato chip.”
“The ball is really white and hurts me a lot.”
“I play with my cat with my feet because I don’t want to touch it with my hand.”
“Power Rangers isn’t a dance.”
“We’re just machines that are flesh.”



“And that was when he was smashed with a tuba.”
“Dress their arms appropriately.”
“I don’t know her name but it’s my mom.”
“I could have done the best hand kissing ever.”



“Unwanted kiss that’s not in the book.”
“I am a leprechaun!”
“I forgot to say she has eyes in her hair.”
Teacher: “What are you doing?”
Student: “Cutting out Mr. Summer’s face.”
“I don’t want to put pants on.”



Teacher: “Don’t talk.”
Student: (starts singing Elvis)
“It looks like a hippo showing its abs.”
“Look, my Crocs dance.”
“I need to learn to, like, shut up in class.”
“I want to be a Margarita. That way my mom would finally pay attention to me.”

“He is abusing that cow.”
“Calm down you stupid ice!”
“Can you choke on ice?”
“Be nice to your ice.”
“My eyebrows are wet.”



“Why don’t people realize that dictionaries are yummy?”
“My sister’s prom dress has pockets.”
“The carpet is bleeding.”
“Name one letter that starts with the letter A.”
“My friend got eraser stuck in his hair so we had to cut it out.”
“You can’t suck with your chin.”
Student 1: “My character attracts nuns.”
Student 2: “Your character is a two foot monkey.”
“I am smacking him with Cheez-its.”
Student 1: “What is the name of today?”
Student 2: “The 22nd?”
Student 1: “No! The day!”
Student 2: “Friday...?”
“My favorite chicken was stolen by an eagle.”
“Do you want a Sprite banana cranberry?”



“My thumb smells like Oreos.”
“I don’t want people to see my armpit fat.”
“I’m gonna pour hand sanitizer in your ear.”
Student 1: “Drums.”
Student 2: “Drugs.”
Student 1: “What? No!”
“I know my cousins too well to marry them.”
“Unicorns don’t have manes!”



“I want to be a vigilante in those tight tights.”
Student 1: “I should send a letter to Abu Dhabi.”
Student 2: “He’s dead.”
“I can be Uranus laying on the floor dead.”
Student 1: “This book hasn’t been checked out since 2091!”
Student 2: “That hasn’t even happened yet!”
Student 1: “Dude, you’re like an egg.”
Student 2: “Is that a bad thing?”
“Kronos puts the FUN in dysfunctional.”
“Should I put hair on the potato chip?”



“I tried to draw Picasso but it was Picass-no.”
Student 1: “My eyes are melting.”
Student 2: “Oh, I thought you were crying.”

